

**Alaska Department of Revenue**  
**Child Support Services Division Program Policy**

Policy Title:	Return of Hard to Place Adoptions to OCS		
Policy Type:	Program	Effective Date:	04/01/2013
Policy Number:	CSSD-P-203	Version:	001
Comments:	Approved by Commissioner of Revenue, Bryan Butcher on 01/17/2013. New Policy.		

Approved By: *John Mallonee, Director*  Approved Date: 03/11/2013

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Department of Health and Social Services, Office of Children Services (OCS) has hard to place children who have been in the foster care program for multiple years, possibly with physical and/or mental challenges. A hard to place child is adopted by parent(s) through OCS subsidized adoption program. The child's birth certificate lists the adoptive parent(s). The families receive monthly maintenance payments and medical coverage for adopting the child. Later the child is returned to foster care, or other programs outside the home. The Child Support Services Division (CSSD) can legally pursue an adoptive parent for child support when a child is taken into custody. Pursuing child support in these cases could have a counterproductive impact for the adoption program. An individual may be deterred from adopting a child knowing they could be liable for child support in the future if the adoption terminates.

**POLICY:**

CSSD will not pursue child support orders against people who adopted hard-to-place children under OCS Subsidized Adoption and Guardianship program if the child is later returned to State custody.